

**MINUTES**  
*of the*  
**SANTA BARBARA METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**DATE:** February 17, 2004

**PLACE:** 550 Olive Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair John Britton, Directors David Davis, Brian Fahnestock, Lee Moldaver, Olivia Rodriguez and Interim General Manager Sherrie Fisher

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Browning Allen and Dan Secord (City of Santa Barbara) Annmarie Rogers (Visitor Center), Mary Byrd (Santa Barbara Car Free/Air Pollution Control District-APCD), Jerry Estrada, Lynnette Coverly, David Damiano and Barbra Nelson (MTD).

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**1. Call to Order**

Chair John Britton called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

**2. Roll Call of the Board of Directors**

Chair Britton noted that all Board members were present.

**3. Report Regarding Posting of Agenda**

The MTD Board Clerk Barbra Nelson reported that the agenda for this meeting was posted at the MTD administrative headquarters and on the MTD Website last week and mailed to media of general circulation.

**4. Approval of Prior Minutes**

Director Lee Moldaver moved to waive the reading of, and approve the minutes of February 3, 2004. Director Olivia Rodriguez seconded the motion, which passed with 4 ayes and one abstention.

**5. Cash Report**

Director Moldaver moved to accept the cash report for January 27<sup>th</sup>, through February 9th, 2004. Director Rodriguez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**8. Field Trip (Line 22)**

(Chair Britton moved this item number forward to accommodate attendees.)

Randy Reetz of the Mission Canyon Association spoke in favor of continuation of the Field Trip to the Botanic Garden, noting that 200,000 tourists go there each year.

Mary Byrd of Santa Barbara Car Free/APCD spoke to the Board to reiterate support she gave at the last Board meeting and pledged to work together with Mr. Reetz on some of his ideas in the future.

Annemarie Rodgers of the Santa Barbara Visitors Center addressed the Board, stating that they had 1700 people in one day go to the Visitors' Center and every month there is an increase in tourists arriving via train. Ms. Rodgers supports the weekend extension of line 22 to the Botanic Garden.

Director David Davis moved to accept the staff recommendation to extend the Line 22 to the Botanic Garden all year on weekends starting on Memorial Day and asked staff to keep monitoring the program. Director Moldaver seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**7. Public Comment**

(Chair Britton moved this item number forward to accommodate attendees.)

Santa Barbara City Council Member Dan Secord, liaison to MTD, addressed the Board on two issues:

1. He encouraged the Board to maximize the MTD owned properties at Calle Real and Overpass Road;

2. He requested that future closed sessions be held at the end of Board meetings to accommodate attendees.

Director Davis from the facilities committee offered to meet with Dr. Secord to review the progress on the properties.

Chair Britton agreed to hold closed sessions at the end of Board meetings. Director Rodriguez noted that previously closed sessions were held at the beginning of Board meetings to minimize attorney fees.

Bus Driver Sharon Simkins addressed the Board on the issue of driver's breaks (AB98 legislation) concluding that she plans to continue work with staff to find a solution.

Director Davis asked the staff to continue to review the issue of driver breaks.

General Manager Sherrie Fisher noted that presently a 6-hour shift has a 15-minute break and that this issue is part of the upcoming negotiations of the union contract.

Director Brian Fahnestock said that he still had questions regarding the relationship between fatigue and accidents, noting that the balance between costs and benefits should be considered. Director Moldaver noted that the Board is limited on what they can do within the public comment item and suggested that staff do an intensive review of important issues, once a month, making the issue of safety one of them.

#### **6. Recess to Closed Session**

Chair Britton announced that the closed session on MTD property Calle Real would not be held, but they would recess to closed session pursuant to Government Code §54957, Public Employee Appointment, Title: General Manager. At 9:45 the Board came out of closed session and Chair Britton announced that there was no action taken.

Director Davis directed the staff to investigate moving the next meeting, the budget workshop, to a night meeting that would be televised and to include Director Fahnestock presentation on MTD funding as part of the workshop.

Controller Jerry Estrada noted that at this workshop staff would be presenting only a draft then would present a final version in May.

#### **9. Adjournment**

Director Davis moved to adjourn and Director Moldaver seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.